

Introducing Fedora 18 (Spherical Cow)

Fedora 18 (Spherical Cow), just like every version of Fedora, is a complete, robust, fully-functional operating system, released by the Fedora Project.

The Fedora Project maintains each version of Fedora with updates and security fixes for approximately 13 months, and offers a wide variety of community-led support resources.

A Few Quick Facts...

- The Fedora Project strives to create 2 releases every year, one approximately every 6 months. This release of Fedora took slightly longer; the introduction of our new installer deserved appropriate and thorough testing, to ensure a fantastic new experience for everyone.
- Fedora 18 ships with GNOME 3.6, the newest update to the GNOME 3 desktop. This release introduces some new features and improvements, including enterprise account support in the user panel, a redesigned message tray, Kerberos support, and a new screen lock and login screen.
- Fedora 18 continues to embrace the cloud, and includes Eucalyptus 3.2 and the OpenStack Folsom release. Both of these Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS) platforms enable the installation and provisioning of cloud computing infrastructure resources.
- This release also introduces a new user interface for installation. Anaconda, the installer, has been completely redesigned to improve the end-user experience, and utilizes a hub-and-spoke model to simplify and streamline both the configuration and the overall look-and-feel.
- For more details about the features in Fedora 18, refer to:
<http://fedoraproject.org/wiki/Features>
- The features found in this release are developed by the Fedora community through active collaboration with upstream free software communities. We take pride in working directly on the open source projects that make Linux work better, and continue to be the vanguard in advancing and integrating free software worldwide.

Have questions? Please don't hesitate to get in contact with us — we're happy to talk with you.

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Your New Live USB Key

Enclosed is a **pre-release** of Fedora 18 (Spherical Cow) on a Live USB key. The final release of Fedora 18 is scheduled for availability on January 15, 2013. This pre-release was made during Fedora 18's stabilization phase, so it may still contain a few bugs that will be fixed in the final release.

Turn this sheet over for more important information about your Live USB key!

Using Your Live USB Key

- The Live USB key is a fully bootable Fedora system, meaning that all data will be taken from the USB key. Your hard disk will not be touched at all, unless you choose that option.
- When you boot, you will probably have to hit **F12** (or the key that your system uses to select a boot device) and select the USB key. Otherwise your computer may start whatever operating system is installed on the hard disk. Most computers made in the last several years can boot from a USB device, but if you have any problems, please let us know.
- Your USB key includes a persistency feature, meaning that any changes you make to the package set, document creation, web browsing history, etc. are saved to the USB key across reboots. This means that you can upgrade your Live USB key to the final version of Fedora 18 and beyond.*

(*See reverse for details.)

More About Your Live USB Key

Your Fedora 18 (Spherical Cow) USB key is a 64-bit version designed to boot on most Intel or AMD compatible personal computers.

This key does not support Apple PowerMac, iMac, or MacBook systems at this time.

If you have problems...

- The Fedora Project maintains a listing of known problems on its public wiki:

http://fedoraproject.org/wiki/Common_F18_bugs

- Also, take a look at the official Release Notes for additional information:

<http://docs.fedoraproject.org>

- Fedora continues to lead in advanced hardware support. Some very specific types of video hardware may exhibit issues when displaying the graphical user interface (GUI) after booting. If you experience such a problem, try the following:

1. Power the computer off and then on again.
2. Hit any key to interrupt the startup.
3. Hit **Tab** to edit the boot parameters.
4. Add **nomodeset** to the end of the line.
5. Hit **Enter** to continue booting.

Other special boot parameters may be of interest:

acpi=off pci=noapic (may help in booting odd or old hardware)

xdriver=vesa (may help with some odd video cards)

nomodeset (may help with some odd or old video cards)

Other workarounds are available. If you need further help, you may wish to visit the community help forums at fedoraforum.org.

(Note that this site is provided by the community and is not owned or operated by the Fedora Project or Red Hat.)

Did you know that we share a variety of statistics about Fedora installations, community size, and participation? Check it out here:

<http://fedoraproject.org/wiki/Statistics>

If you have any further questions, please contact:

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Fedora 18 Features

Fedora 18 includes a number of shiny new features - here's just a few:

- GNOME 3.6
- New installer UI (Anaconda)
- Eucalyptus 3.2
- OpenStack Folsom
- Samba 4
- System Storage Manager
- Updates to a number of languages, including Perl, Rails, and Python.

Interesting Facts

- The Live USB key in its current state premiered in Fedora 9. It provided many advances, including a persistence feature that lets the system change to be what you need it to be.
- In Fedora 10, the Live USB feature gained support for a separate user data area (called /home to Linux fans) so that you could update the entire key while still keeping all your data safe.
- Fedora also created the Live USB's encryption capability, putting strong, reliable security within reach for everyone. If you lose an encrypted Live USB, it doesn't mean your personal data is compromised.
- We even created a point and click Windows program, the Live USB Creator, that lets Windows users download a Fedora Live image and write it to a USB key. Now the freedom and security of open source are within reach for everyone.